

## Message Text

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ORIGIN AF-08

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 EB-07

AID-05 CPR-01 SY-05 SAM-01 PRS-01 CIAE-00 INR-07

NSAE-00 /075 R

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY MONROVIA PRIORITY

INFO USMISSION GENEVA

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 185352

PASS TO AMBASSADOR CARTER

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP, (TOLBERT, W.R.)

SUBJECT: AMBASSADOR DENNIS ON TOLBERT'S VISIT

REF: STATE 180370; STATE 180417

1. ON JULY 23, AMBASSADOR DENNIS PAID BRIEF COURTESY CALL ON ASSISTANT SECRETARY SCHAUFLE FOLLOWED BY MEETING WITH AF/W. SUBSTANCE BOTH MEETINGS WAS PRESIDENT TOLBERT'S UP-COMING STATE VISIT.

2. DENNIS SAID HE MET ON 22 JULY WITH BOTH SPEAKER ALBERT AND MAJORITY LEADER MANSFIELD CONCERNING LIBERIANS' WISH THAT TOLBERT ADDRESS A JOINT MEETING OF CONGRESS. DENNIS CITED AS REASON FOR ADDRESS THE HISTORIC US-LIBERIA TIES AND TOLBERT'S DESIRE TO EXPOUND HIS VIEWS ON LIBERIA AND AFRICA TO WIDEST POSSIBLE AUDIENCE. DENNIS SAID HE TOLD BY CONGRESSIONAL LEADERS THAT THEY QUOTE NOT ADVERSE UNQUOTE  
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TO ADDRESS AND THAT SEPT. 23 AROUND MIDDAY SEEMED BEST TIME.

DENNIS SAID CONGRESSIONAL LEADERS SAID DEPT. SHOULD ALSO CONVEY AN EXPRESSION OF INTEREST TO CONGRESS. WITH SPEAKER ALBERT, DENNIS ALSO DISCUSSED POSSIBILITY OF TOLBERT'S OKLAHOMA VISIT.

3. DENNIS STATED TOLBERT AND PARTY WOULD BE ARRIVING SEPT. 21 ON CHARTER FLIGHT AND ADDED THAT THEY CONSIDERING LAND-

ING AT BALTIMORE/WASHINGTON AIRPORT AND THEN PROCEEDING TO BALTIMORE TO SPEND REMAINDER OF 21ST. DENNIS RAN INTO GOV. MANDEL AT WHITE HOUSE RECEPTION JULY 20, AND MANDEL TALKED OF POSSIBLE ANNAPOLIS VISIT BY TOLBERT. DENNIS NOTED HISTORIC RELATION BETWEEN MARYLAND AND LIBERIAN SETTLERS WHO HAD ESTABLISHED MARYLAND COUNTY. HE ALSO EMPHASIZED SISTER CITY RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN BALTIMORE AND GBARNGA. DENNIS IS IN TOUCH WITH MAYOR OF BALTIMORE RE POSSIBILITY TOLBERT SEPT. 21 STAY IN BALTIMORE WITH APPROPRIATE DINNER AND PARTICIPATION IN BALTIMORE'S BICENTENNIAL ACTIVITIES.

4. DENNIS NOTED THAT HE IS MEETING WITH AID ADMINISTRATOR PARKER ON JULY 29. HE EXPRESSED HOPE THAT QUOTE WE CAN DO OUR HOMEWORK IN ADVANCE SO THAT SOMETHING SIGNIFICANT AND SYMBOLIC CAN BE CONCLUDED DURING THE VISIT UNQUOTE. DENNIS DID NOT STATE THAT AID AGREEMENTS NEED BE SIGNED DURING VISIT, BUT SAID THAT PROGRAMS SUCH AS ROADS, MANPOWER DEVELOPMENT, AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS ARE DESIRED BY THE LIBERIANS.

5. TEXT OF POSSIBLE JOINT ANNOUNCEMENT TO BE DISCUSSED WITH DENNIS BY JULY 27.

6. DENNIS ALSO MENTIONED THE FOLLOWING POSSIBILITIES FOR TOLBERT'S VISIT: A) TOLBERT HAS AN INVITATION FROM GOVERNOR GRASSO TO VISIT CONNECTICUT. B) THE VENUE FOR THE BUSINESSMEN'S LUNCH MIGHT BE CHANGED FROM NEW YORK. DENNIS IS MEETING WITH REPRESENTATIVES OF AMERICAN COMPANIES WITH INTERESTS IN LIBERIA ON AUGUST 2 TO DISCUSS THIS MATTER. DENNIS SUGGESTED PHILADELPHIA AS AN ALTERNATE SITE. C) TOLBERT HOPES TO HAVE LUNCH OR DINNER  
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WITH DAVID ROCKEFELLER IN NEW YORK, POSSIBLY AFTER TOLBERT'S UNGA SPEECH WHICH IS TENTATIVELY SCHEDULED FOR SEPTEMBER 29. D) DENNIS RAISED POSSIBILITY OF TOLBERT'S VISIT TO DC CITY HALL TO MEET MAYOR WASHINGTON RATHER THAN HAVING WASHINGTON COME TO BLAIR HOUSE. E) THE AMBASSADOR ASKED ABOUT A SECOND MEETING BETWEEN THE TWO PRESIDENTS AND WAS TOLD THAT THIS WOULD BE MOST UNUSUAL UNLESS ISSUES AROSE WHICH WOULD REQUIRE SUCH A MEETING. KISSINGER

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